

BB FORM
NO. 32

ROUTE SLIP

(Fold Here)

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BUREAU OF THE GET
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

DATE 2/10/61

TO: Dr. Wiesner

FROM: David E. Bell PWB

REMARKS:

Returned with appreciation.

RELEASED

September 99

(2)

NND 931011-140

~~REDACTED~~
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 4, 1961

MR. BELL.

For information and
return to Dr. Wiesner.

931011-141

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Wiesner

Attached paper on Gov
Uranium position prepared
by Mr. Scoville is forwarded
to pursuant to your discussion
yesterday with Mr. Dulles.

(LHmwy Jh.)

DATE

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

931011-142

~~110186~~

~~SECRET~~

2 February 1961

STATUS OF SOVIET URANIUM ORE
PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT

Intelligence clearly indicates that the Soviet Union has established a large uranium ore production base within the Bloc. In addition to widespread production in the USSR, major quantities of ore are procured from nearly all of the European satellites. The Soviet Union is currently producing about 17,000 tons of recoverable uranium metal per year, with over one-half coming from the European satellites and almost one-third coming from East Germany alone.

Estimated Soviet ore production is summarized on the attached sheet. We accord a high degree of reliability to this estimate.

We believe that this quantity of ore is significantly greater than that required to support the Soviet fissionable material production program on a day-to-day basis, and estimate that they have accumulated a significant stockpile which is equivalent to their future needs for several years.

Communist China is developing a sizable native uranium ore production effort and probably will have no requirement for foreign procurement.

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We do not foresee any strong technical or economic motivation for the Soviets to procure uranium ore outside the Soviet Bloc. However, for political reasons, they could in time offer to procure small quantities from less developed countries such as Argentina, Peru, Mexico or Afganistan. It should be noted that if the U. S. discontinues foreign uranium ore procurement, this will facilitate the accessability of this ore to potential "Nth" countries; but such U. S. procurement is not in itself an effective denial measure.

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**ESTIMATED
SOVIET BLOC URANIUM ORE
PRODUCTION**

(METRIC TONS OF RECOVERABLE URANIUM METAL)

SECRET	1960	1965
USSR	7,800	9,800
EAST GERMANY	5,000	
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	1,700	
BULGARIA	1,000	
*(POLAND)	(40) 8,900	11,500
RUMANIA	800	
HUNGARY	400	
(CHINA)	(500)	
	ANNUAL	
TOTAL SINCE 1946	16,700	21,300
	130,000	230,000

*PRODUCTION RETAINED BY CHINA OR POLAND (AFTER 1958).
NOT INCLUDED IN TOTALS.

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